

Voices of the Underground Railroad

Overview: In this lesson students will analyze four narratives and memoirs from the Underground Railroad. They will gain some general knowledge about the Underground Railroad as well as explore the backgrounds of the authors that created the primary sources. As a final assessment students will create their own memoir detailing events from the Underground Railroad.

Narrative:

*“Clarissa Davis: Arrived Dressed in Male Attire”

The Underground Railroad: A Record of Facts, Authentic Narratives, Letters...

By: William Still

*The Rev. J. W. Loguen, as a Slave and as a Freeman. A Narrative of Real Life:

Electronic Edition.

By: Jermain Wesley Loguen

*Life, Including His Escape and Struggle for Liberty, of Charles A. Garlick, Born a Slave in Old Virginia, Who Secured his Freedom by Running Away from his Master's Farm in 1843

By: Charles A. Garlick

*Reminiscences of Levi Coffin, the reputed president of the underground railroad: being a brief history of the labors of a lifetime in behalf of the slave, with the stories of numerous fugitives, who gained their freedom through his instrumentality, and many other incidents.

By: Levi Coffin

Objectives:

*Analyze primary sources from the Underground Railroad period in American History.

*Gain insight on the use of the genre of memoir and narrative in historical documents.

*Learn basic background information on the Underground Railroad and the Americans that documented it.

*Use creative writing skills to create a personal memoir about the Underground Railroad.

Time Required: Four class periods

Grade Level: This lesson is intended for a middle school Social Studies classroom. The lesson can be modified for other grade levels.

Standards and Benchmarks:

Michigan Department of Education

SS 1.2 All students will understand narratives about major eras of American and world history by identifying the people involved, describing the setting, and sequencing the events.

SS 2.4 Use historical biographies to explain how events from the past affected the lives of individuals and how some individuals influenced the course of history.

ELA 1.2 Read with a developing fluency a variety of texts, such as short stories, novels, poetry, plays, textbooks, manuals, and periodicals.

ELA 8.2 Describe and use characteristics of various narrative genre and elements of various narrative techniques to convey ideas and perspectives.

Common Core Standards

RH.6-8.2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

RH.6-8.6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

Lesson Sequence

Day One:

Introduce students to the genre of memoir. Discuss the differences between a memoir, narrative, and biography.

Memoir—a record of events written by a person having intimate knowledge of them and based on personal observation.

Present the class with a few examples of memoir from: <http://www.writingmemoir.com/samples.aspx> or other available sources.

Hand out the pre-assessment “What do you know about the Underground Railroad?” (available on the resource page at the end of this lesson)

Upon completion, lead the class in a discussion about the Underground Railroad and the difficulty that fugitive slaves faced when trying to escape to freedom.

Day Two:

Students will analyze memoirs and accounts from the Underground Railroad. The following excerpts (available on the resource page) will be provided to students. The teacher may choose to divide the class into groups or partners to complete the analysis. Depending on time constraints students may be able to complete analysis of multiple documents.

Excerpt 1

“Clarissa Davis: Arrived Dressed in Male Attire”

The Underground Railroad: A Record of Facts, Authentic Narratives, Letters...

By: William Still

Excerpt 2

The Rev. J. W. Loguen, as a Slave and as a Freeman. A Narrative of Real Life: Electronic Edition.

By: Jermain Wesley Loguen

Excerpt 3

Life, Including His Escape and Struggle for Liberty, of Charles A. Garlick, Born a Slave in Old Virginia, Who Secured his Freedom by Running Away from his Master's Farm in 1843

By: Charles A. Garlick

Excerpt 4

Reminiscences of Levi Coffin, the reputed president of the underground railroad: being a brief history of the labors of a lifetime in behalf of the slave, with the stories of numerous fugitives, who gained their freedom through his instrumentality, and many other incidents.

By: Levi Coffin

Students will complete the primary source analysis sheet as they read the provided excerpt.

After completion students will share their findings with the class. The teacher will encourage students to find similarities and differences in the primary sources and to discuss if their selected passage should be considered a memoir.

Day Three

Using online or print resources students will research the author of their document. Students will fill out the “Who was-----“questions provided in the resources section.

Students should be encouraged to make connections between their author’s experience with the Underground Railroad and their intention in sharing stories of the event.

Day Four

Using their knowledge of memoirs and narratives along with the information gained from the primary sources and author research, students will write their own narrative of the Underground Railroad. Students should be encouraged to take on the role of a runaway slave, conductor or stationmaster. Please use the “Memoir Planning Guide” in the resource section to complete the final assessment.

Lesson Resources

For access to the full text please visit the following links from the Library of Congress.

William Still

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=ody_rbcmisc&fileName=ody/ody0211/ody0211page.db&recNum=0&itemLink=D?aaodyssey:2:./temp/~ammem_5QIV::@@@mdb=aap,aaeo,rbaapcbib,aasm,aaodyssey,bbpix,rbpebib,mfd,hurstonbib,gmd,mc,c,ncpm,afcesnbib,mesnbib,llstbib,uncall,fpnas&linkText=0

The Reverend J. W. Loguen

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/loguen/loguen.html>

Charles A. Garlick

<http://dbs.ohiohistory.org/africanam/page.cfm?ID=316>

Levi Coffin

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=moa;idno=ABT8668>

What do you know about the Underground Railroad?

Please circle the best response to each question. Be prepared to discuss your ideas with the class.

True or False

1.) **T F**

The Underground Railroad was a series of rail lines that ran from north to south to assist runaway slaves to freedom.

2.) **T F**

Mainly white northerners participated in the Underground Railroad.

3.) **T F**

A “conductor” was a person who aided slaves as they fled to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

4.) **T F**

Harriet Tubman was a “conductor” on the Underground Railroad.

5.) **T F**

All slaves that escaped to freedom went to the north.

Multiple Choice

6.) The homes and businesses where fugitive slaves could find safety were called:

- a. safe houses
- b. stations
- c. hideaways
- d. taverns

7.) Running away from slavery was difficult for the fugitive slave because:

- a. it required escaping from the master
- b. it often required leaving friends and family behind
- c. money and other resources were required
- d. all of the above

Short Answer

8.) Please share your knowledge of the Underground Railroad and think of a few questions that you have about this time period in American History.

What do you know about the Underground Railroad?

KEY

Please circle the best response to each question. Be prepared to discuss your ideas with the class.

True or False

1.) **T F**

The Underground Railroad was a series of rail lines that ran from north to south to assist runaway slaves to freedom.

False *The Underground Railroad was a network of people that used their resources, including homes and businesses, to aid fugitive slaves in gaining freedom. The term "railroad" was adopted to represent the new technology of the time period.*

2.) **T F**

Mainly white northerners participated in the Underground Railroad.

False *Although many white northerners did participate, fugitive slaves were predominantly assisted by other escapees and freed blacks.*

3.) **T F**

A "conductor" was a person who aided slaves as they fled to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

True *Like the term "railroad," a "conductor" described a person who assisted slaves in gaining freedom.*

4.) **T F**

Harriet Tubman was a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad.

True *Harriet Tubman's story, although not typical, is what many Americans associate with their knowledge of the Underground Railroad.*

5.) **T F**

All slaves that escaped to freedom went to the north.

False *Many slaves, especially in the Deep South, escaped to Florida or Mexico.*

Multiple Choice

6.) The homes and businesses where fugitive slaves could find safety were called:

- a. safe houses
- b. stations
- c. hideaways
- d. taverns

B. Stations *Much like the terms “conductor,” and “railroad,” “station” reflected the fascination of the use of railroads during this time period.*

7.) Running away from slavery was difficult for the fugitive slave because:

- a. it required escaping from the master
- b. it often required leaving friends and family behind
- c. money and other resources were required
- d. all of the above

D. all of the above *Students should be made aware of the difficulty, both emotionally and physically, that a fugitive slave faced when decided to escape to freedom.*

Short Answer

8.) Please share your knowledge of the Underground Railroad and think of a few questions that you have about this time period in American History.

Use this question to open up discussion about the Underground Railroad and to clarify any misconceptions that students may have about the time period.

CLARISSA DAVIS.

ARRIVED DRESSED IN MALE ATTIRE.

Clarissa fled from Portsmouth, Va., in May, 1854, with two of her brothers. Two months and a half before she succeeded in getting off, Clarissa had made a desperate effort, but failed. The brothers succeeded, but she was left. She had not given up all hope of escape, however, and therefore sought "a safe hiding-place until an opportunity might offer," by which she could follow her brothers on the U. G. R. R. Clarissa was owned by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Burkley, of Portsmouth, under whom she had always served.

Of them she spoke favorably, saying that she "had not been used as hard as many others were." At this period, Clarissa was about twenty-two years of age, of a bright brown complexion, with handsome features, exceedingly respectful and modest, and possessed all the characteristics of a well-bred young lady. For one so little acquainted with books as she was, the correctness of her speech was perfectly astonishing.

For Clarissa and her two brothers a "reward of one thousand dollars" was kept standing in the papers for a length of time, as these (articles) were considered very rare and valuable; the best that could be produced in Virginia.

In the meanwhile the brothers had passed safely on to New Bedford, but Clarissa remained secluded, "waiting for the storm to subside." Keeping up courage day by day, for seventy-five days, with the fear of being detected and severely punished, and then sold, after all her hopes and struggles, required the faith of a martyr. Time after time, when she hoped to succeed in making her escape, ill luck seemed to disappoint her, and nothing but intense suffering appeared to be in store. Like many others, under the crushing weight of oppression, she thought she "should have to die" ere she tasted liberty. In this state of mind, one day, word was conveyed to her that the steamship, City of Richmond, had arrived from Philadelphia, and that the steward on board (with whom she was acquainted), had consented to secrete her this trip, if she could manage to reach the ship safely, which was to start the next day. This news to Clarissa was both cheering and painful. She had been "praying all the time while waiting," but now she felt "that if it would only rain right hard the next morning about three o'clock, to drive the police officers off the street, then she could safely make her way to the boat." Therefore she prayed anxiously all that day that it would rain, "but no sign of rain appeared till towards midnight." The prospect looked horribly discouraging; but she prayed on, and at the appointed hour (three o'clock—before day), the rain descended in torrents. Dressed in male attire, Clarissa left the miserable coop where she had been almost without light or air for two and a half months, and unmolested,

reached the boat safely, and was secreted in a box by Wm. Bagnal, a clever young man who sincerely sympathized with the slave, having a wife in slavery himself; and by him she was safely delivered into the hands of the Vigilance Committee.

Clarissa Davis here, by advice of the Committee, dropped her old name, and was straightway christened "Mary D. Armstead." Desiring to join her brothers and sister in New Bedford, she was duly furnished with her U. G. R. R. passport and directed thitherward. Her father, who was left behind when she got off, soon after made his way on North, and joined his children. He was too old and infirm probably to be worth anything, and had been allowed to go free, or to purchase himself for a mere nominal sum. Slaveholders would, on some such occasions, show wonderful liberality in letting their old slaves go free, when they could work no more. After reaching New Bedford, Clarissa manifested her gratitude in writing to her friends in Philadelphia repeatedly, and evinced a very lively interest in the U. G. R. R. The appended letter indicates her sincere feelings of gratitude and deep interest in the cause—

NEW BEDFORD, August 26, 1855.

MR. STILL:—I avail my self to write you thes few lines hoping they may find you and your family well as they leaves me very well and all the family well except my father he seams to be improveing with his shoulder he has been able to work a little I received the papers I was highly delighted to receive them I was very glad to hear from you in the wheler case I was very glad to hear that the persons ware safe I was very sory to hear that mr Williamson was put in prison but I know if the praying part of the people will pray for him and if he will put his trust in the lord he will bring him out more than conquer please remember my Dear old farther and sisters and brothers to your family kiss the children for me I hear that the yellow fever is very bad down south now if the underground railroad could have free course the emergrant would cross the river of gordan rapidly I hope it may continue to run and I hope the wheels of the car may be greesed with more substantial greese so they may run over swiftly I would have wrote before but circumstances would not permit me Miss Sanders and all the friends desired to be remembered to you and your family I shall be pleased to hear from the underground rail road often
Yours respectfully,
MARY D. ARMSTEAD.

ANTHONY BLOW, ALIAS HENRY LEVISON.

SECRETED TEN MONTHS BEFORE STARTING—EIGHT DAYS STOWED AWAY ON A STEAMER BOUND FOR PHILADELPHIA.

Arrived from Norfolk, about the 1st of November, 1854. Ten months before starting, Anthony had been closely concealed. He belonged to the estate of Mrs. Peters, a widow, who had been dead about one year before his concealment.

On the settlement of his old mistress' estate, which was to take place one year after her death, Anthony was to be transferred to Mrs. Lewis, a daugh-

CHAPTER XXII.

As may be supposed, the young men were delighted to be alone again on the public highway. To them, their overnight experience was something like an escape from a den of lions. The weather continued freezing cold, but they minded it not, so intensely interested were they in their success. Their horses were well fed and cared for, and scarcely less lively than when they started.

Their own provisions furnished them again, and their horses were supplied as on the preceding day. When evening came, they found themselves in the presence of one of the most popular taverns on the road. It was quite dark, and they delivered their horses to the stable boy, like other traveler, and directed their steps to the house, which was glowing with light, and alive with the sound of many voices.

As they entered the hall, they met the landlord, and enquired if they could be entertained. He said "yes," and opened the door into the bar-room. They saw the room literally filled with white men, in all stages of intoxication: The fumes of tobacco and brandy, with the loud oaths of demented men, flowed in an overpowering torrent upon their senses.

"Don't take us in there!" said Jarm. "We are free colored men, and want to be by ourselves, and have supper, and go to bed, and be on our journey in the morning, early."

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The landlord then led them to a private parlor, and left them. In a short time a servant came and said their suppers were ready.

Neither Jarm or John were ignorant of well provided tables; but to see one set for themselves, alone, was a new thing. Their table was furnished with broiled chicken, ham and eggs, coffee, sweet-meats, and etceteras. When they took their seats, servants stood behind them to obey their commands. They felt awkwardly but pleasantly, and exchanging significant glances, hastily sated their keen appetites with the best supper they ever enjoyed. After the cold food and cold ride of the last forty-eight hours, a warm feast like that was a great luxury.

They fell asleep soon after they felt their beds, and notwithstanding the bellowing of the crazy and drunken men, who, until after midnight, and even to approaching morning, made the house tremble with their demonstrations, they slept soundly, only, and occasionally, and partially, waking, to testify to the tempestuous excesses of the debauch.

At an early hour they awoke the hostler, fed their horses, paid their bills, and prepared to journey again. We give the following incident, illustrative of Jarm's luck and southern ways.

Jarm brought to the tavern a new cotton umbrella, and left it with the landlord. This umbrella some of the frolikers had taken, and left a new and beautiful silk one in its place. When the servant brought Jam's things, in the morning, he brought along this umbrella. "That is not my umbrella; mine is a new

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cotton one," said Jarm. The boy returned to his master and stated the case to him.

"Tell the d—d fool to take the umbrella and be off—who the d—I cares?—the silk umbrella belongs to the n—"—growled the landlord from his bed, where it is not probable he had lain long. Of course Jarm made no more words, accepted the profitable exchange, unceremoniously thrust upon him, thinking it an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

The third day did not materially vary the experience of the fugitives. But when night overtook them, they stopped at a private mansion, which, they were told, belonged to a bachelor gentleman. They delivered their horses to the servants, to be cared for, as usual, and were led to the front door, and entered the room, where the proprietor sat reading.

"We are free colored men," said Jarm, "and want—"

"I'll colored men ye—you black rascals!" said the bachelor, as he reached for his cane, "if you don't get out of this room!"

The young men fled, of course, and avoided the blows the **idiocracy** or drunkenness of their host seemed willing to inflict. He did not follow them, but seemed satisfied that he was clear of their presence. The servants understood his peculiarities, and led them to the kitchen, and showed all the kindness they dare. But they were allowed neither supper or bed. Here again they had a night of fasting, added to anxious watching for morning, to be released from painful embarrassment. Two things only were they indebted to their crusty landlord for. Their horses were

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housed and fed,—thanks to the slaves for that,—and they, also, were covered from the cold winter.

Notwithstanding they were so shabbily used, the overseer showed them his sour and ugly face in the morning, and demanded a dollar for the use of beds which they never had. In the lion's mouth, as they were, they knew it was wise to be submissive. Jarm, therefore, handed the overseer a dollar bill, which had been condemned as counterfeit, and which he could no where else pass. This piece of counterfeit paper, which had been imposed on Jarm, appeased the extortion of the crusty scoundrel, and they took their horses and departed.

They now entered the fourth day of their journey, without awaking the enemy, or eliciting attention to their real character. They were in excellent spirits, and congratulated each other upon their good fortune. From past experience, they believed to-day would be as yesterday and the day before, and that they should pass through without molestation. Their road lay through a thinly settled and uncultivated country, and it was rare they met a traveler. Under the circumstances, they dismissed fear, and amused themselves by recurring to the escapes, perils, and incidents of the journey. Those perils and incidents made them the more sportive, as they were exciting. Over their experience with the old bachelor, whose vengeance and hospitality were so spontaneous and peculiar, they made themselves merry and laughed heartily.

where I was assisted to elude my pursuers and sent ahead when safety was assured. Just one week's time was consumed in reaching Uniontown, where agents of the underground railroad at the ferry in Greensburg instructed me to go. There I lay concealed in the haymow of a zealous friend of my race, who provided me with food until an opportunity offered three days later for me to continue my journey. Just after dark, I mounted a fleet horse, which my host had provided, and under a strong escort I reached the National road. Accompanied by a faithful mounted guard I rode rapidly towards Pittsburg, which I reached the following night. Leaving my friend to return with the horses, I hastened forward on foot some seven miles, to the smoky city.

J. B. Vashong and Thomas McKeever, father of the late Mrs. Thos. Guy, then kept a regular station on the underground and here I found refuge for three days. He was a gentleman of wealth, and hundreds of my race have cause to bless his memory for the generous aid accorded them in their efforts to find freedom. Samuel Marshall, Butler Co., some fifteen miles away kept another station and I next journeyed there under his guidance and remained for a week at his house resting. Then I was sent to a relative of his, John Rainbow, at New Castle, where I found refuge at Rev. Bushnell's, who had a brother in Cherry Valley. Next I tramped to Amos Chews, in Brookfield,

and the following morning left for Hartford, Trumbull Co., where I found kind friends in the persons of Ralph Plumb and Seth Hayes, merchants, in whose cheese warehouse I worked for two weeks. Learning that some southerners, presumably in search of runaway slaves, were in the vicinity, I left hastily, bringing up at Stod Stevens' store in Gustavus, remained there over night and the following morning left in company with Joseph B. Barber, cattle dealer of Wayne, who turned me over to George Quick, who brought me in a buggy to Alba Coleman agent, underground railroad, at West Andover. Arrived there Saturday night and remained until Monday afternoon. I then left on foot, reaching Anson Kirby Garlick's hospitable home an hour later.

After a night with him, I was proposing to continue my journey to Canada when he advised me to remain with him and go to school. In the South I had not attended school two days when the master found it out and forbade my further efforts to secure an education.

I remained with Mr. Garlick from 1843 to 1846 attending district school a portion of the time during the winter, working on the place the rest of the time.

The first winter I attended school, I was awarded the second prize for the greatest improvement in writing. Miss Sophia Houghton, an elder sister of the late Mrs. Judge Betts, of Jefferson, taking the first prize.

On accepting Mr. Garlick's hospitality and home.

CHAPTER V.

NEWPORT STORIES—THE CUNNING SLAVE—ROBERT BURREL—ELIZA HARRIS—SAM, THE ELOQUENT SLAVE—PREJUDICE AGAINST COLOR—AUNT RACHEL—A SLAVE-HUNTER OUTWITTED—SEVENTEEN FUGITIVES.

OF the many hundred cases that came under our personal notice during the twenty years that we lived at Newport, Indiana, a few will be given. I shall not attempt to give dates, nor the names of the runaway slaves. When the fugitives came to our house, they seldom gave the name by which they had been known in slavery, or if they did, we gave them another name, by which they were afterward known both at our house and in Canada. The stories that follow are gathered from the slaves' own narratives.

THE CUNNING SLAVE.

Jim was a shrewd, intelligent chattel, the property of a man living in Kentucky. Having in some unaccountable manner got the idea that freedom was better than bondage, he resolved to make an effort to gain his liberty. He did not make his intention known to his wife or any of his fellow-bondmen, choosing to make the attempt alone. He watched

for an opportunity to escape, and when it came he started for the Ohio River. He knew that he was a valuable piece of property, and that his master would pursue him and make strong efforts to capture him, so he let no grass grow under his feet till he reached the bank of the river. He wandered along this in the dark for some time, looking for a way to cross, and finally came to the hut of a colored man. He told his story to the negro living in the hut, and offered him a part of the small sum of money he had if he would take him across in a skiff to the Indiana shore. The negro knew where a skiff lay drawn up on the shore, and consented to row him across. Jim reached the other side safely, and landed a short distance above Madison. It was now near daylight, and he must hasten to seek a place of concealment. He was directed how to find George De Baptist, a free colored man, who often aided fugitive slaves. George then lived in Madison, but soon after removed to Detroit, Michigan, for his own safety. Jim made his way to the house of this friendly colored man, and remained secreted during the day. Some time in the day, George De Baptist learned that Jim's master had arrived in town with a posse of men, and that they were rudely entering the houses of colored people, searching for the missing slave. By shrewd management on the part of George, the hunters were baffled, and the next night Jim was conducted through corn-fields and by-ways to a depot of the Underground Railroad. He was forwarded from station to station, at late hours in the night, until he reached William Beard's,

in Union County, Indiana. Here he rested a few days, under the roof of that noted and worthy abolitionist, whose house was known for many years as a safe retreat for the oppressed fugitive. From that place he was conducted to our house, a distance of about twenty-five miles, and, after remaining with us one day, he was forwarded on from station to station, till he reached Canada. Here he remained a few months. In telling his story, he said :

“Oh, how sweet it was to breathe free air, to feel that I had no massa who could whip me or sell me. But I was not happy long. I could not enjoy liberty when the thoughts of my poor wife and children in slavery would rise up before me. I thought to myself, I have learned the way and found friends all along the road; now I will go back and fetch my wife and children. I'll go to old massa's plantation, and I'll make believe I am tired of freedom. I'll tell old massa a story that will please him; then I will go to work hard and watch for a chance to slip away my wife and children.”

So Jim left Canada and wended his way back to the old plantation in Kentucky. His master was greatly surprised, one morning, to see his missing property come walking up from the negro quarters as if nothing had happened. Jim came up to him and made a low bow, and stood before him as humble as a whipped dog. In answer to the volley of questions and hard names that greeted him, Jim said :

“I thought I wanted to be free, massa, so I run away and went to Canada. But I had a hard time

there, and soon got tired of taking care of myself. I thought I would rather live with massa again and be a good servant. I found that Canada was no place for niggers; it's too cold, and we can't make any money there. Mean white folks cheat poor niggers out of their wages when they hire them. I soon got sick of being free, and wished I was back on the old plantation. And those people called abolitionists, that I met with on the way, are a mean set of rascals. They pretend to help the niggers, but they cheat them all they can. They get all the work out of a nigger they can, and never pay him for it. I tell you, massa, they are mean folks."

In narrating his story, Jim said: "Well, old massa seemed mightily pleased with my lies. He spoke pleasant to me, and said: 'Jim, I hope you will make a good missionary among our people and the neighbors.' I got massa's confidence, and worked well and obeyed him well, and I talked to the niggers before him, in a way to please him. But they could understand me, for I had been doing missionary work among them, and the neighbors' niggers too, but not such missionary work as massa thought I was doing."

Jim worked on faithfully through the fall and winter months, all the time arranging matters for a second flight.

In the spring, when the weather was warm, he succeeded in getting his wife and children and a few of his slave friends across the Ohio River into Indiana. He got safely to the first station of the Underground Railroad, with his party, numbering

“Who was-----“
Learning more about Americans who documented
the Underground Railroad

You were given the opportunity to read a passage about the Underground Railroad. Now let's learn some more about the author of your document. Please answer the following questions using online or print resources.

1.) My author was:

- a. William Still
- b. The Reverend J. W. Lugen
- c. Charles A. Garlick
- d. Levi Coffin

2.) Was your author a white Northerner, a freed black, or a former slave? Why would their background be important when reading the passage?

3.) When and where did your author live?

4.) What motivated him to participate in the Underground Railroad? Was it religious reasons, was he a slave himself? Think critically about why he would be willing to risk breaking the law to help others or himself.

5.) Was your author recognized in his lifetime as being a part of the Underground Railroad? If yes was he celebrated or shunned for it?

6.) What have you learned about the Underground Railroad after reading an account from someone who witnessed it? Were you surprised by the story? Explain.

7.) Please list the resources you used to find the information.

**“Writing a Memoir of the Underground Railroad”
Planning Guide**

- 1.) Decide which role you will take when creating your memoir. Will you be a fugitive slave, stationmaster, or conductor?

- 2.) Who is your intended audience? Who do you want to share your story with?

- 3.) What event about the Underground Railroad would you like to share? Will you describe the perils of your trip? Leaving your family behind? The relief of reaching freedom?

- 4.) What emotions will you convey in your story? Are you relieved, scared, hopeful?